

**REMARKS**

In the Official Action, the Examiner allowed independent claim 9 and the claims depending therefrom. In addition, the Examiner objected to claim 15 and indicated that such claim, which depended from claim 7 and which recited that the hydrophilic overcoat layer contains a light-to-heat conversion material would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

By the present Amendment, the subject matter of claim 15 has been incorporated into claim 7 with claim 15 being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claim 7 and claims 12 and 13 depending therefrom are now believed to be allowable. In addition, the same recitation has been added to independent claim 8. Since this subject matter was previously recited in claim 16 and was found allowable in the Official Action dated October 6, 2003 (the Examiner only objecting to claim 16/14/8) and since the subject matter of claim 14 has already been included into claim 8, it follows that the current amendment to claim 8 is proper and places the claim in allowable condition along with claims 11 and 12 (to the extent depending from claim 8).

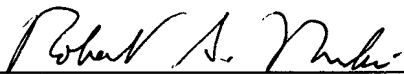
The same revision has been implemented with respect to independent claim 6. Since claim 16/14/6 was previously only the subject of a rejection under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 in the Official Action dated October 6, 2003, which rejection has been fully met, applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to claim 6 also places this claim and the claims depending therefrom in condition for allowance.

Since all matters raised in the Official Action are believed to be fully met by the instant Amendment, applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment, reconsideration of the amended claims and allowance of the present application.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the present application, she is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:   
Robert G. Mukai  
Registration No. 28,531

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

Date: September 26, 2004